1. Call to Order

LaVon Worley, Chair, called the regular meeting of the Des Moines County Conservation Board to order at 5:30 p.m. at the Des Moines County Conservation Administration Building.

Those Members Present: LaVon Worley, Jim Steer, Cathy Ziglar, Angela Vaughan and Jim Garnjobst.

Those Members Absent: None

Others Present: Director Chris Lee, Administrative Assistant Breuer,

- 2. Additions and Deletions to Agenda:
 - a. None.
- 3. Delegations/Public Input:
 - a. None
- 4. Approval of Minutes for June 07, 2017:
- #38 a. Motion by Angela Vaughan, seconded by Jim Steer to approve the minutes of the June 07, 2017, Board Meeting. Motion passed unanimously by those members present.
- 5. Approval of Claims for June 2017:
- #39 a. Motion by Cathy Ziglar, seconded by Jim Garnjobst to approve the claims for June 2017.

 Motion passed unanimously by those members present.
- 6. Committee Reports:
 - a. Shooting Range: Held an informal meeting, no new items.
 - b. Flint River Trails: No new items.
 - **C. Observatory:** The observatory has had strong numbers this year with the favorable viewing weather. Preparations are under way for the August eclipse.
 - d. **REAP/TWILL:** No new items to report, however, it was reported last month that Governor Branstad used his line item veto to restore funding for the Leopold Center. The veto restored 25% of the funding.
- 7. Project Updates:
 - a. Flint River Trail: We are working on a construction easement for the western part of the trail where it follows the Flint River and joins the highway. Bid letting has been pushed to October for the project.
 - b. Starr's Cave Nature Center: The summer camps are going very well. Several new camp are set to debut shortly. This was the result of a donation by the Kiwanis club, allowing SCNC to hire additional help to run the standard programs and freeing up staff to develop the new camps.
 - c. Big Hollow: Progress continues on the wastewater system. There are now two crews working on its installation. We are still on track for a functioning system for July 21. Work on the new lake accesses will begin within the next couple of weeks. There is a meeting scheduled with the roads department to discuss the second boat ramp to be placed on the South side of the lake.
- 8. Old Business:
 - a. None to report.

- 9. New Business:
 - a. We ended FY16-17 with just over \$20,000 left in our budget bottom line.
- 9. Informational Items/Correspondence:
 - a. Annual Volunteer Awards Banquet: We are working on fliers and invites. A request has been submitted for a keynote speaker. The awards banquet is scheduled for Friday, August 18 at 5pm.
 - **b. DNR Cuts:** Due to a \$1.2M budget cut, the Iowa DNR has eliminated the forestry division and announced several layoffs. There will no longer be a DNR trail crew or Americorps programs.
 - c. Burlington Model Airplane Club: A fun fly day is scheduled for August 13, 2017.
- 10 Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 6:22 p.m.

Next meeting will be held at the Des Moines County Administration Office at 13700 Washington Road in West Burlington, IA. Meeting will be held at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday August 02, 2017. The public is welcome.

LaVon Worley, Chair

Cathy Ziglar, Secretary/Treasures